



Berkley C of E First School

Headteacher: Mrs Thompson

Telephone: 01373 887390

'Let your light shine'

NEWSLETTER

Friday 8th December 2023

KEY INFORMATION:

Drop off: Owls and siblings only – 8.40am

All other classes at 8.50am. The register is taken at 9am.

Please ensure your child arrives at school on time, we close the gate at 9am for security.

Next Inset Days: Tuesday 2nd and Wednesday 3rd January 2024

BIBLE REFERENCER OR PRAYER

Having hope propels us to achieve our dreams and drives us forward toward our pursuits. "Hope" is the thing with feathers - That perches in the soul - And sings the tune without the words And never stops - at all -

Dear Families,

I really love this time of year when the school is full of carols, nativity characters, advent candles and winter poetry. The older pupils as part of their leadership programme become special delivery elves, handing out the Christmas cards to the younger classes. Having watched the nativity last night I have to say, it was magical. I am sure you will agree they told one of the oldest stories with compassion, joy and skill. I am always proud of our pupils and staff, well done for a fantastic performance. I look forward to the Spring performance from Badgers and many more wonderful nativities to come. Thank you to the parents for supporting our events. It has been a busy week of learning with the Owls and Badgers coming to the end of their units and evaluating their work. Badgers class next week will be exploring the rapid spread of the Great Fire of London with their own re-enactment.

TAKE A LOOK AT OUR LEARNING

Christmas Jumper Day



BIRTHDAYS:

Wishing Perry a very Happy birthday for the weekend.

Best Wishes for a lovely weekend.

Mrs S Thompson

Headteacher



Diary Dates

Please ensure you have ordered your lunches by **midnight** on a Wednesday on Parent Pay.

Date	Time	Event
Monday 11th December	9:30am	Christmas Service in church– Short service of singing, Parents welcome.
Wednesday 13th December		Last Day to order your lunches for the first week back after the holidays. School Christmas Lunch
Thursday 14th December		No swimming this week.
	3.15-4.15pm	Football Club
Friday 15th December		Last day of term. Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas.
Sunday 24th December	4.00pm	St Mary's Service
Monday 1st January		Bank holiday Wishing you all a very Happy New Year.
Tuesday 2nd January		Inset day– Teacher Training with other schools.
Wednesday 3rd January		Inset day Don't forget to order your lunches on Parent Pay.
Thursday 4th January		First day back for pupils <i>Swimming—Badgers and Rabbits</i> Welcome back assembly– Mrs Thompson
	3:15-4:15pm	Football Club
Friday 5th January		

Future diary dates.

Tuesday 23rd January

Bags2School Collection


SAFEGUARDING

Mrs Thompson is the DSL and Mrs Appleby and Mrs Windridge are the Deputy DSLs. If you are worried about a child or young person who could be in danger please contact: • Children's Social Care on 0300 123 2224. Please take note of the helplines we always put at the end of our newsletter which will now be once a term. They are there to help and support those in need. We have an open door policy so please do come in if you want someone to talk to over a cup of tea.

The United Nation Convention on the rights of the child entitles them to a Right to Education (Article 28). If the attendance drops **below 95%, this is classed as poor/unsatisfactory attendance**, which reduces their chances of success. We have seen an increase in term time holidays, please only take holidays in the allocated holidays provided, thank you.

Attendance	
For w/c 04.12.2023	
Attendance	Absences
94.06%	5.93%
Learning time lost:	
29 Days	

Please look at which class have earned the Balloons this week!!

Classes	Rabbits 	Squirrels	Badgers	Owls
w/c 04.12.2023	100%	94.69%	88.21%	95.33%

Communication

In order to deal with any queries or concerns you need to:-

- Call the school office and request a phone call or meeting
- Ask for contact at the gate, face to face with the class teacher at the end of the day, the teacher will then get back to the parent with a phone call.
- Parent can also email the office and this is sent onto the teachers personal email.

Sickness

Please be aware that we follow strict guidance from Public Health and have a 48 hours rule for sickness and diarrhoea.

Public Health: Diarrhoea and vomiting 48 hours from last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting: Should be excluded for 48 hours from the last episode of diarrhoea not the first. Further exclusion may be required for children.

Please ensure that you phone school every day to keep us updated.

Term Time Holidays

Any holiday requests in term time need to be sent in writing to The Headteacher via our holiday request form that is available on our website or can be requested through the school office.

We have to follow strict guidelines in partnership with other Frome schools and we can not authorise holidays in term time.

Please always let us know if you are going away by completing the form regardless of whether it is authorised or not. Thank you for your understanding.

<https://www.berkleyschool.co.uk/community/parent-information/>

Keep checking our website for all the latest information and any policies you need regarding Berkley School.

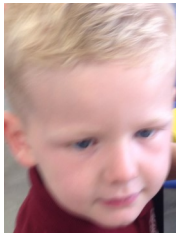
www.berkleyschool.co.uk



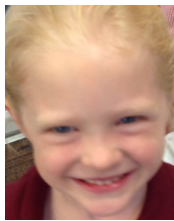
Our Achievements!

On a Friday we dedicate the assembly to celebrating the successes and wow moments of the week. The children come home with a certificate for their efforts in particular areas. All the adults also have the opportunity to mention a child from any class who has made a difference to their week or who they have spotted doing something wonderful. These children receive a sticker on the day. We link our rewards to the skills they have demonstrated throughout the week and we value each child equally.

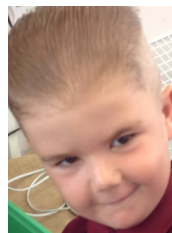
Star of the week



Reading Superstar



Demonstrating our Christian Value



HEADTEACHER AWARD



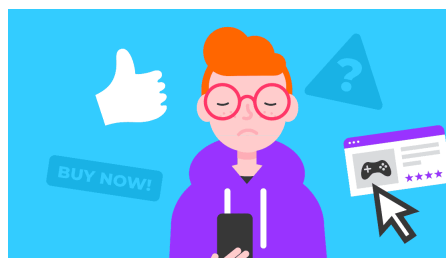
Mia.W, Harri, Jaxon and Lucas– thankyou for helping our poor tree who got knocked down by the wind. I really appreciated your help with the baubles.





For Parents - What are Social Media Scams?

With online scams on the rise worldwide, particularly at this time of year, it's important we are all aware of what scams are, the common types of scams and helpful tips. Internet Matters have a great information page for parents with lots of useful information, but I think there is a lot of really useful information to use in the classroom too. You can find all the information for children and parents [What are social media scams? A guide to support young people - Internet Matters](#) [What are social media scams? A guide to support young people - Internet Matters](#)



What are social media scams? A guide to support young people

Learn about how social media can influence young people's spending habits and how to equip them with the skills to recognise social media scams.

www.internetmatters.org



Frome
Autism & ADHD
Parent Forum

We are a friendly, welcoming support group for families of children with additional needs.

We offer a monthly group session where we can provide support, advice and signpost to other useful organisations.

Dates for 2024

January 15th 10am -12pm
February 12th 10am-12pm
March 18th 10am-12pm
April 15th 10am-12pm
May 20th 10am-12pm
June 17th 10am-12pm
July 15th 10am-12pm
September 16th 10am-12pm
October 21st 10am-12pm
November 18th 10am-12pm
December 16th 10am-12pm

Venue - Frome Town Hall Cafe

Come along for a cuppa, make new friends and share experiences in a private and safe space.

We look forward to welcoming you!

Any questions please email-
fromeautism.adhdparentforum@gmail.com
or join us on Facebook.

Christmas Wreaths

Thank you to everyone who bought a Christmas wreath kit through school - it helped to raise just over £120 for the FBS funds. A few of us got together in the school hall on Wednesday evening to make our wreaths, whilst enjoying some mince pies cooked by Tommy and Ben's mum. A wonderful evening to start the festive season.



 **CHRISTMAS HAMPER RAFFLE** 

FBS have made up some beautiful Christmas Hampers all FULL with lots of goodies for all the family. Raffle tickets are £1 each and available via parent pay. You can buy as many as you like!!! All proceeds go to the school.

If you have friends and family who would like to buy raffle tickets please send the cash with their name into school by the morning of Tuesday 12th December.

The draw will take place on the afternoon of Wednesday 13th and the lucky winners can collect their Hampers on Thursday 14th December.

You've got to be in it to win it!!! Good luck!!!

You will only be able to buy 1 ticket at a time on Parent Pay. Once you have paid for one ticket, you will be able to go back and purchase another ticket if you wish to do so. Multiple tickets can be purchased, but have to be purchased individually, so one transaction per ticket.



FBS wish all staff, parents, children and families a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



Family Holiday Activities

EXPLORE • CREATE • DISCOVER

Book online at wellscathedral.org.uk/holidays






Christmas Crafts

December 2023

Get the holidays off to a festive start with these creative workshops for children:

A Host of Angels Monday 18 December
Make an adorable angel decoration to hang on your Christmas tree.

Colourful Candlelight Tuesday 19 December
Transform a jam jar into a beautiful candle holder, inspired by the Cathedral's stained glass.

Festive Foliage Wednesday 20 December
Use natural materials to make a festive centrepiece to adorn your table this Christmas.

Scan to book:

Or drop in on the day (subject to availability)

£2.15 per child / £1.10 if eligible for free school meals; accompanying adults FREE

Please note: children must be accompanied by a responsible adult and only assistance dogs are allowed at our Family Holiday Activities



KIDS XMAS CAMP

FROM SPORT AND FITNESS



COURSE DATES

18TH DEC - 20TH DEC 2023

AGES: 5-13 YEARS

TIMES: 9:00AM - 3:00PM



£25 PER DAY

Our Multi-Activity Sports and Art Courses offer the opportunity to enjoy a fun packed day full of sports, activities and games. Swimming is also on one of the days

BOOK ONLINE
@ WWW.PRO-COACHING.CO.UK

LUNCH INCLUDED!

INSET DAYS

Tuesday 2nd January 2024

Wednesday 3rd January 2024

SENCo Sharing:

Both of these extracts are from publications that will be available on the website shortly.

The first one is from **The Good- Night Guide For Children** -Produced by The Sleep Council and the second is from **Building Resilience in Young Children 0-6** – Produced by Best Start: Ontario’s Maternal, Newborn and Early Child Development Resource Centre. Both of these will be available in full on the school website shortly. Have a lovely weekend, Rebecca

THE IMPORTANCE OF SLEEP

Sleep is essential to support children’s development. Well rested children are more able to meet their full potential in every aspect of their lives. Listed below are just a few of the symptoms of sleep deprivation in children:

- * Growth or hormone issues
- * Concentration difficulties
- * Mental health issues
- * Lowering of the immune system
- * Hyperactivity
- * Weight gain
- * Behavioural issues
- * Difficulty remembering things

Parents who are disturbed by their child’s poor sleep patterns are also likely to suffer from sleep deprivation. A well-rested household usually makes for a happier home.



Tips for building your children's confidence

- **Encourage your children to keep on trying** even when the task is hard or frustrating. Give children the courage to keep going. *“That’s it! You almost did it. Keep going... Good for you. You kept trying and you did it!”*
- **Show your children that “Mistakes are OK”**. People who believe that mistakes are a natural part of learning are more confident about trying new things. *“That’s OK. We all make mistakes. It’s how we learn. Now you know to do it differently the next time.”*
- **Be a “Strengths Detective”**. Pointing out your children’s strengths is a much better confidence-builder than focusing on their limitations.

